



# **Mairangi & Castor Bays Presbyterian Church**

## **NEWSLETTER**

### **April 2017**

**Minister: Rev Karel Lorier**



Gary Syme Leads Born Again Bodies Exercises  
Photo: Erica Brash

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Minister:**
**Rev Karel Lorier**
**Mobile 021 903 762**
**Telephone 414 6321**
**E-mail: karellorier@gmail.com**
**Administrator:**
**Jo Wyman-Macer**
**Office Hours:**
**Wednesday : via phone and email**
**Thursday - Friday: 9am - 1pm**
**Telephone: 478 6180.**
**Email: preschurch.mairangi@xtra.co.nz**
**Street Address: 10 Penzance Rd,  
Mairangi Bay.**
**Postal Address: PO Box 65299,  
Mairangi Bay.**
**Website: www.bayspresbyterian.org.nz**
**Parish Clerk:**
**Stewart Milne**
**Telephone: 478 5786**
**Mobile: 027 293 8499**
**Treasurer,**
**Property & Finance: Telephone: 478 6411**
**George Wyman**
**Social Worker**
**for the Elderly:**
**Melinda Gama**
**Mobile: 027 308 5015.**
**Youth Worker:**
**Natasha Easey**
**Email: tash.easey@gmail.com**
**Mobile: 021 0232 0751**
**SUNDAY SERVICE: 10am**
**WEDNESDAY COMMUNION: 2.30pm**

## Easter Services -

**Sunday April 9** Palm Sunday Choral service at the Church

**Friday April 14** Good Friday Service 9.30 am at the Church.

**Sunday April 16** Communion service 10.00am at the Church.

# REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

- GIRLS' BRIGADE**  
 Tuesdays during School term. Church Hall 6.30-8pm.  
 Kay Barbour Ph 478 7603
- GARY SYME'S BORN AGAIN BODIES**  
 Wednesdays Church Hall. 1.00-2.00pm  
 Further information Gary Syme Ph 479 2212
- LUNCHEON GROUP**  
 2nd Thursday of month 12-2pm in Church hall  
 Further information Raewyn Henderson Ph 410 4423.
- HOUSE GROUP**  
 21st March 7.30pm at the Shadbolts  
 Contact Dorille Shadbolt Ph 479 3953.
- FRIDAY NIGHT DISCUSSION GROUP**  
 Meeting 3rd Friday 6.30pm shared meal. Venue circulates.  
 For further information contact Jenni & Allan Jones  
 Ph 478 5694.
- DEE'S SOCIAL GROUP**  
 Thursdays 10am Mairangi Bay Church Hall  
 For further information Stewart Milne Ph 478 5786.
- MAINLY MUSIC**  
 Fridays during the school term. Church Hall 10-11am  
 Further information Pauline Gulliver Ph 478 4051
- WEDNESDAY COMMUNION**  
 Wednesdays 2.30pm in the church
- LADIES HOME GROUP - Wednesdays 10.15am,**  
 Contact Heather on 479-8822 for further details



mainly  
music



## FROM THE MINISTER



Rev Steve Taylor with Sean and Max Gulliver Photo:Karel Lorier

On 5 March, we were fortunate to have Steve Taylor, Principal of the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, speak to us at our Sunday morning service. He talked about biblical examples of worship that were more like festivals attended by extended families or the whole community. They were not weekly events, nor did they necessarily occur on the Sabbath and they could last several days. They included music, drama, discussion, eating and much of what we would call fellowship. They were also agents of change or transformation for the participants.

I had the benefit of having read one of Steve's books, "The Out of Bounds Church - Learning to Create a Culture of Change." In this book, he recounts stories about the emerging church in many places around the world, as well as some churches in New Zealand. Much of it is based on his actual experience of such churches. At the Common Dreams conference that Erica and I attended in Brisbane last year one of the speakers spoke about such events, festivals or celebrations, especially attractive to young adults. For some, they are life changing events.

For many years in our Protestant tradition, we have identified being Christian with going to church every Sunday. Attending Sunday worship was the hallmark of being Christian. In the early days of my ministry in the late 1960s and early 70s, people would apologise if they could not attend church on a particular Sunday. Church goers at the time were also somewhat judgemental about those who did not attend, labelling them as non-Christian, even though in their lifestyle and faith they were Christians. Many claimed the local congregation as their church, would attend on special occasions and make significant financial contributions to keep it going.



Communion Service on March 10th for those unable to Attend Sunday service  
Photo: Karel Lorier

I think it is time we looked at the way we do church. This is not to denigrate what is happening now. As Lance Thomas said in the seminar we attended at Clevedon, we have "kept the home fires burning" over tough and difficult times for the church. Having said that, what we are doing does not meet the needs of the postmodern generation.

What appears to be working in some places are events or celebrations that happen monthly or every two or three months and not necessarily on Sunday. Part of the value of these events is the planning for them. In some ways, we have moved towards this in our first Sunday of the month (in term time) services, but we may need to explore this idea further.

On Friday, 10 March, we had such an event in the form of a communion service followed by lunch for people who are not able to attend our Sunday services. This proved to be a wonderful occasion enjoyed by both the participants and those who helped with the transport and lunch.

We will be starting a group for conversational English for those who have English as a second language. This has happened at the request of a young Chinese woman who popped in to see me at church. A good number of people have indicated they could help with this group.

Andrew Norton, past Moderator and Moderator Elect, has pancreatic cancer and is undergoing treatment for this at the time of writing this article. Please remember him in your prayers. Andrew is writing a blog with some reflections on his condition online at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/teamandrewnorton](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/teamandrewnorton).

Shalom  
Karel

# UPDATE ON PARISH COUNCIL



Three Soundsmen

Photo Erica Brash

At our Parish Council meeting on March 21 we:

- Spent time on pastoral matters.
- Received advice from the Moderator of the Northern Presbytery that our request for a Ministry Settlement Board to be set up had been received and that Presbytery was seeking to appoint two representatives to it
- Received advice that in our response to explore the viability and practicality of a shared way forward on the North Shore, the Rev. Lance Thomas would be available to attend a meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.15 pm. It was agreed to host the meeting and to invite those parishes who had expressed an interest in the topic to attend.
- Were informed that 23 people attended the Special Communion Service on March 10 and 21 of them stayed for the lunch.
- Were informed that a Compliance certificate for the Site development had been issued.
- Were notified that following a strong expression of interest within the congregation, Parish Council would respond to a request from Mrs Grace Liu, and set up an English Conversations Group commencing Wednesday March 22 between 1.00pm and 2.30pm.
- Were informed that our response to the Northern Presbytery Council on its Reorganisation proposal had been positively received. The amended version now includes an increase in the number of groups, a single moderator, a full time Administration Officer and fewer meetings. The number of parishes in our cluster group is greatly reduced, almost as we recommended.

**Ian Watson**



Since the last Newsletter, our Sunday activities during Worship time are now underway. A big thank you to Kay and Pauline for the work they have put into creating and providing the material for some projects that we have been doing. It is proving to be a great time for both fellowship and learning



Our Saturday activities are due to start on March 25 with a visit to the mini-golf centre in Takapuna. Planning is also underway for an Easter Egg hunt, advertised on p14 in this Newsletter on April 8 commencing 4.00pm at the Church. There has already been some interest expressed and we are looking to some fun and fellowship. Tash has come up with some great ideas for it. Please make that this event known to friends and family and contact Tash on 021 0232 0751 for further details.



The new Sandpit Play equipment has been installed and is a hit! Well done and thanks to Pauline & Pete Gulliver for applying for funds and organizing the install.  
*Photo taken by Pauline Gulliver*

## FAITH AND REASON



Martin Luther

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the great Reformation of church life in Europe. Yet, strikingly, the man who triggered it had not the slightest intention of splitting the Catholic Church asunder.

Martin Luther was a model monk and parish priest in the small east German town of Wittenberg. Like many loyal churchmen of his day, however, he shared a visceral disgust at the corruption of the late medieval church. For example, Pope Leo X, a cardinal since age 13, needed big money to complete the building of St Peter's Basilica in Rome. To raise funds, he authorised the sale of get-out-of-purgatory guarantees.

The German franchisee was a prelate who, for a handsome donation to St Peter's, had at 24 become archbishop of two wealthy dioceses and bishop of a third. For this he had to borrow heavily, and Leo helped him to pay off the loan by selling the guarantees, or "indulgences", in German territory. Half the proceeds would offset the multi-bishop's loan, the rest would flow to St Peter's.

Luther heard that some of his parishioners were travelling to a town across the border to buy an indulgence from a travelling monk who, to boost sales, broadened the papal guarantee to include dead relatives. The monk pleaded: "Don't you hear the voice of your dead parents crying out, 'Have you no mercy on us, for we suffer great punishment and pain? From this you could release us with a few alms.' As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs."

The question "How can I be saved?" caused Luther great anguish, and he was appalled. So on October 31, 1517, he posted on the local church door, which doubled as a bulletin board for Wittenberg's university, 95 propositions to be tested in debate.

In the previous two years he had come to believe with St Paul that putting one's whole-hearted trust in Christ was sufficient to bring sinners eternal life - and it came from grace freely given, not by punishment beyond death, and especially not by buying it for cash!



Indulgences were a delusion, he declared, and "those who believe they can be certain of their salvation because they have indulgence letters will be eternally damned, together with their teachers." Ouch!

Another thesis questioned why Leo did not use his own fabulous wealth to build St Peter's, "rather than the money of poor believers". Apart from the denunciation of indulgences, though, Luther showed due deference to the pope.

Then they were translated from Latin into German. The new printing presses worked overtime to spread them around. Swirling social, economic and political currents magnified their impact. The theses tapped into wider resentments - church corruption, the torrent of German money flowing to Rome, papal restraints on the German princes' autonomy. Luther found himself a hero for saying openly what so many were thinking. The revenue stream from indulgences dwindled, and the church's focus switched to papal authority. It ordered Luther to bow to authority and recant. Yet, initially, all he had sought was to debate the question: Can the church justify indulgences on the basis of Scripture and reason?

The cleft widened. Leo branded Luther "a son of perdition" and excommunicated him. Luther publicly burnt the document. A number of German rulers gave him their blessing. Mutual abuse flew and grew. The church in Europe was irrevocably sundered.

A new Europe was being born.

**Ian Harris**

Otago Daily Times

February 10th 2017



*Luther's theses are engraved into the door of All Saints' Church, Wittenberg. The Latin inscription above informs the reader that the original door was destroyed by a fire, and that in 1857, King Frederick William IV of Prussia ordered a replacement be made. Wikipedia*

## HOMER SIMPSON AND MR SPOCK



Recently I heard a talk from a behavioural psychologist, Renee Jaine employed in the marketing industry. The model she used for explaining our reaction to our surroundings assumed that within our brain there was a very rational entity, capable of dispassionate reasoning and an impetuous, almost instinctive portion, more or less akin to what is sometimes described as “gut feeling”. The first part she described as our Mr Spock bit in honour of the character from Star Trek. The second she described as the Homer Simpson effect in recognition of his personality characteristics. She then went on to make the point that in many instances, even when we think we are being logical in our decision making, the greater component is in fact coming from the Homer Simpson part of our make up.

Such a model, and the back-up information it is based on is very useful for those in the marketing industry. I remember many years ago the local manager of an ice cream company telling me of a packaging issue they faced. At the time their two litre containers were either square or round. Despite the fact that in written surveys, people indicated an overwhelming preference for square containers, the round ones outsold them by two to one. This for them was a nuisance because round containers required more storage space. After some head scratching, their marketing experts came to the conclusion that the round containers triggered a maternal comfort instinct in buyers. Whatever, the “problem” as they perceived it must have been resolved as the square container these days is the dominating ice cream container shape.

Renee gave a number of examples where tricks on our Homer Simpson part were played. There is on a driveway along the lakefront in Chicago, a windy road which has seen more than its fair share of accidents many due to the speed drivers were travelling at. Rather than rely on road-signs, the traffic engineers at the start of the curvy bits, painted a series of parallel lines each line getting closer to the other. This creates an illusion of speed, early on and from the driver's perspective suddenly, causing them instinctively to slow down. As a result, accidents were reduced by 37%.

As a more cerebral example, Renee posed the following question to what was a highly intelligent audience. *A baseball and bat cost \$1.10 and the bat costs a dollar more than the ball. What is the cost of each?* Nearly two thirds said a dollar for the bat and ten cents for the ball, but, of course that difference is 90 cents. The answer, which the few algebraically inclined worked out is five cents for the ball and \$1.05 for the bat.

Renee's point was how easy it is to jump to conclusions in comparing prices when confronted with the advertising of supermarkets. My mind went to something a little more theological which is how do we seek to understand the nature of God? For instance, a good friend who happened to be an outstanding scientist, had over a period of years intellectually moved to the point where he seriously challenged the prevailing Christian orthodoxy on the existence of God. Yet some months before he tragically died, he arranged for his funeral to be held in a church whose denomination he was once part of, and chose two hymns to be sung, one of which was "*Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*", whose words are the epitome of Christian orthodoxy.

From our life experiences, we come to a number of conclusions about its nature, some of which seem to be processed in our "Homer" part. Sometimes we call this conventional wisdom. Sometimes it is helpful, other times it is not. Through his parables, Christ challenged much of the conventional wisdom of the society he found himself in. Our challenge today is to apply those teachings to the world we live in.

**Ian Watson**



Lunch Following the Special Communion Service on March 10th  
Photo: Karel Lorier

## CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



**Summer Fun and Music at Tititiri Matangi on March 5**  
Haggis About to be Addressed



**Photos: Norma Baker**  
Pipe Band Entertains Concert Goers

### Food Bank

The Foodbank items which are being received continue to be appreciated. Dorille and Pauline are approaching Montrose to see if they would be willing to extend the cup (of coffee) for a can to 3 times this year.

### Dees Group

Dee's Group could do with more volunteers, especially men, given that the group of clients has reached capacity. Please contact **Stewart on 4785786**, if you can help. It was agreed that Karel would approach the Probus groups which meet in the church to see if anyone is available for a 2-hour stint once a month. The group is much appreciated by carers and will be visited by the Waitemata District Health Board on 9 March. There is potential for co-operation with them.

### Luncheon Group

At our March meeting, Jean Allen and Gary Syme spoke about their very interesting lives. We will hear from others next term. Thank you so much, Jean and Gary.

This was followed by a "Family Feud" type quiz then a sing-along.

Please mark April 13 in your diaries to join us between noon and 2.00pm. Bring your own lunch.

In May we will be entertained by a group of Ukulele players. **Contact Raewyn for further details 410 4423.**

### Girls Brigade

On 13 March 13 girls attended. The older group is doing cooking (preparing dinners), the middle group is doing art projects and started with some tie dying and the younger group is doing work around their Bibles. They started by making a bag for the Bible.

## Mainly Music

Mainly Music has begun for the year and could do with more helpers. Please contact **Pauline on 4784051** if you can assist. The new sandpit is much appreciated.

## English Conversation Group

A request for an English conversation group has been received and a number of people at Parish Council indicated an interest. If you would like to participate, please contact **Stewart Milne on 478 5786**

## Computer Training Skills

Some committee members expressed an interest in Computer skills training. It was agreed to ask North Shore Senior Net if they would like to run an off-shoot meeting in our meeting room on a regular basis

## Some Future Events

May : Armchair travel talk Botswana John Shadbolt.  
 June: Community Conversation on Housing.  
 July: Community Conversation Related to the Elderly.  
 August : Meet the Candidates.  
 September : Armchair Travel Talk Spain, Karen Ruffell.

**Erica Brash**

## FACEBOOK USERS

For those of you who are Facebook users, I have created a page for our church. It is an easier way to communicate activities that are coming up and we can arguably reach a wider audience.

I will also add a link to our website. It would be really good if those of you who do use Facebook could like the page.

I want to work out how to manage posts etc so if you could start posting and sharing, that would also help me to learn.

The page is: <https://www.facebook.com/bayspresbyterian/>

**Pauline Gulliver**

## SPECIAL NOTICES FOR APRIL

### All Age Service April 2

The all age service on April 2 is the second in which members of the congregation are invited to bring along grandchildren. The theme of the service, which will be a participatory one is "Happiness". For further information please **contact Karel on 4146321**

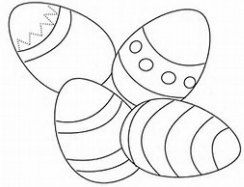
### Ballentyne's Fashion Show, April 3

With the Afrikaans Christian Church, we are holding a Winter fashion Show at Ballentyne's in Albany on Monday April 3 2017 at 6.30pm. Drinks and nibbles will be served and a 10% discount will be available for any purchase in the week following the fashion show. The cost of the ticket is \$15. Please let friends and relatives know. If you want to pre-book, please contact **Dorille on 4793953**

### Easter Egg Hunt, April 8

Our Youth Activity Co-ordinator, Natasha Easey is arranging an Easter Egg Hunt, within the confines of the Church and grounds on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 4.00pm. This will be followed by a light finger food dinner. Please contact **Natasha on 02102320751** if you would like to participate.

All welcome, especially children and grandchildren and their friends.



### Choral Service April 9

The choir and readers will present the easter story in song, readings and meditations on Palm Sunday April 9 10.00 am Mairangi Bay Presbyterian Church. Do come and be part of this special service.

Patricia Campbell

### Easter Services

The services over Easter are as follows:

Sunday April 9 Choral service at the Church (See Above).

Friday April 14 Good Friday Service 9.30 am at the Church.

Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> Communion service 10.00am at the Church.



## **MONTH'S DUTIES**

**April** Flowers: Karen Ruffell

### **2 April**

Welcome Team: Yoshika Tregerthan, Raewyn Henderson (Reading and Offering)

Morning Tea: Jill Wyman, Kay Barbour

Sound System: John Shadbolt

### **9 April**

Welcome Team: Patsy Watson, (Reading) Ian Watson (Offering)

Morning Tea: Sylvana Whyborn, Betty Dance

Sound System: John Shadbolt

### **16 April Easter Sunday**

**Communion:** Jean Allen, Kay Barbour, Sue Bowden, George Watt

Welcome Team: Dorille Shadbolt (Readings), John Shadbolt (Offerings)

Morning Tea: To be advised

Sound System: Peter Stone

### **23 April**

Welcome Team: Sue Bowden (Readings), Bronwyn Stone (Offering)

Morning Tea: Kay Barbour, Anita Schloss

Sound System: Peter Stone

### **30 April**

Welcome Team: Dorille Shadbolt (Readings) John Shadbolt (Offering)

Morning Tea : Norma Baker, Yoshiko Tregerthan

Sound System: Peter Stone

**May** Flowers: To be advised

### **May 7**

Welcome Team: Erica Brash (Readings), Stewart Milne (Offering)

Morning Tea: Raewyn Henderson Jill Wyman

Sound System: John Shadbolt

## CALENDAR OF PARISH EVENTS FOR 2017

EVENT	TIME	PLACE	FREQUENCY	CONTACT
Youth and children	10am	Mairangi Bay Church	Sundays	Pauline Gulliver <b>478 4051</b>
Youth activities	4.00-6.00pm	Various venue	Saturdays tba	Natasha Easey <b>021 0232 0751</b>
Born Again Bodies	1.00—2.00pm	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Every Wednesday	Gary Syme <b>479 2212</b>
Church Choir	7.15pm	Mairangi Bay Church	Thursdays from 16/2 to Palm Sunday	Patricia Campbell <b>476 0377</b>
Dees Social Club	10am	Mairangi Church lounge	10.00am-2.00pm Every Thursday	Stewart Milne <b>478 5786</b>
Fellowship Group	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised	Dorille Shadbolt <b>479 3953</b>
Friday Night Discussion Group	6.30pm	To be Advised	3rd Friday of the month	Jenni & Allan Jones <b>478-5694</b>
Girls Brigade	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Every Tuesday in school term	Kay Barbour <b>478-7603</b>
House Group		22A Hastings Rd	TBA	Dorille Shadbolt <b>479-3953</b>
Ladies Home Group	10.15 am	Wednesdays	Mairangi Bay	Heather Gibson <b>4798822</b>
Luncheon Group	12.00 noon	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	2nd Thursday of the month	Raewyn Henderson <b>410 4423</b>
Mainly Music	10.00am-11a m	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Every Friday in school term	Pauline Gulliver <b>478 4051</b>
Parish Council	7.30pm	Mairangi Bay Church Lounge	3rd Tuesday of the month	Stewart Milne <b>478 5786</b>
Transportation	Arranged as required and as requested			Norma Baker <b>443 3108</b>